

Appl. No. 10/517,275
Amdt. dated October 25, 2006
Reply to Restriction Requirement of August 8, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 21 (Withdrawn)

Claim 22 (Original) The use of a siRNA possessing specific homology to part or the entire exon region of a gene encoding a surface marker, a chemokine, a cytokine, an enzyme or a transcriptional factor of an antigen presenting cell (APC), in a medicament for the treatment of an immune disorder characterized by inappropriate T cell activity.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn)

Claim 24 (Original) The use of claim 22, wherein said T cell activity is inhibited.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn)

Claim 26 (Withdrawn)

Claim 27 (Original) The use of claim 23 or 24, wherein said immune disorder is selected from the group consisting of septic shock, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, scleroderma, immune mediated diabetes, chronic inflammatory bowel syndrome, HIV, cancer, colitis, Crohn's disease, Goodpasture's syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis, Grave's disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, Autoimmune pernicious anemia, Autoimmune Addison's disease, Vitiligo, Myasthenia gravis, Scleroderma, Systemic lupus erythematosus, Primary Sjogren's syndrome, Polymyositis, Pemphigus vulgaris, Ankylosing spondylitis, Acute anterior uveitis, Hypoglycemia and inflammation associated with chronic illness.

Claims 28 to 31 (Withdrawn)

Claim 32 (Original) A composition for the treatment of an immune disorder, said composition comprising at least one of:

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(a) a construct that inhibits the expression of an endogenous target gene encoding a surface marker, a chemokine, a cytokine, an enzyme or a transcriptional factor in an immune cell such that said immune cell alters T cell activity; and

(b) an immune cell wherein said immune cell comprises at least one construct that inhibits the expression of an endogenous target gene encoding a surface marker, a chemokine, a cytokine, an enzyme or a transcriptional factor;; and

(c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier,
wherein said composition alters T cell activity leading to an altered immune response.

Claim 33 (Original) The composition of claim 32, wherein said construct is selected from the group consisting of siRNA and hybrid DNA/RNA.

Claims 34 to 37 (Withdrawn)

Claim 38 (Original) The composition of claim 33, wherein said siRNA or hybrid DNA/RNA is provided within a plasmid or vector.

Claim 39 (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein said plasmid or vector additionally comprises an expressible nucleic acid sequence encoding an antigen.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn)

Claim 41 (Original) The composition of any one of claims 32 to 40, wherein said surface marker, chemokine, cytokine, enzyme or transcription factor is selected from the group consisting of TNF α , IL-1, IL-1b, IL-2, TNF β , IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-23, IL-15, IL18, IL-12, IFN γ , IFN α , lymphotoxin, DEC-25, CD11c, CD40, CD80, CD86, MHCI, MHCII, ICAM-1, TRANCE, CD200, CD200 receptor, CD83, CD2, CD44, CD91, TLR-4, TLR-9, 4-1BBL, nicotinic receptor, GITR-L, OX-40L, CD-CK1, TARC/CCL17, CCL3, CCL4, CXCL9, CXCL10, IKK- β , NF- κ B, STAT4, ICSBP/IFN,

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regulatory factor 8, TRAIL, Inos, arginase, FcγRI and II, thrombin, MIP-1α and MIP-1β.

Claim 42 (Original) The composition of claim 41, wherein said cytokine is selected from IL-12 and TNFα.

Claim 43 (Original) The composition of any one of claims 32 to 40, wherein said surface marker and enzyme are selected from the group consisting of B7-H1, EP2, IL-10 receptor, VEGF-receptor, CD101, PD-L1, PD-L2, HLA-11, DEC-205, CD36 and indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase.

Claim 44 (Original) The composition of any one of claims 32 to 43, wherein said immune disorder is selected from the group consisting of septic shock, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, scleroderma, immune mediated diabetes, chronic inflammatory bowel syndrome, HIV, cancer, colitis, Crohn's disease, Goodpasture's syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis, Grave's disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, Autoimmune pernicious anemia, Autoimmune Addison's disease, Vitiligo, Myasthenia gravis, Scleroderma, Systemic lupus erythematosus, Primary Sjogren's syndrome, Polymyositis, Pemphigus vulgaris, Ankylosing spondylitis, Acute anterior uveitis, Hypoglycemia and inflammation associated with chronic illness.

Claim 45 (Original) The composition of any one of claims 32 to 44, wherein said composition is used to perfuse tissues and/or organs *ex vivo*.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn)

Claim 47 (Original) A method for decreasing the immunogenicity and rejection potential of an organ for transplantation, said method comprising perfusing said organ with a composition that suppresses T cell activity, said composition comprising at least one construct that inhibits the expression of an endogenous

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target gene encoding a surface marker, a chemokine, a cytokine, an enzyme or a transcriptional factor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 48 (Original) The method of claim 46 or 47, wherein said construct is selected from siRNA and hybrid DNA/RNA.

Claims 49 to 54 (Withdrawn)